

The Saturday Review

No. 2166, Vol. 83.

1 May, 1897.

GRATIS.

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SUPPLEMENT.

LONDON: 1 MAY, 1897.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

THE LATEST LIFE OF ST. PAUL.

"A Study of St. Paul: his Character and Opinions."
By S. Baring-Gould, M.A. London: Isbister & Co. 1897.

MR. BARING-GOULD'S preface disarms criticism in the obvious direction. In reviewing this book the thing to do, plainly, was to talk about the absurdity of a popular novelist writing upon St. Paul. But after Mr. Baring-Gould's "foreword" we find ourselves inclined to think with him that a study of the Apostle from the standpoint of "a man of the world, a novelist with some experience of life," would be a very welcome change from the archæologists and the theologians. Mr. Baring-Gould's idea is a good one: "I treat the great apostle as a man"; he will give us a sort of Pauline *Ecce Homo*.

The pity of it is that he does not; the promise is not fulfilled. This book is the most exasperating volume we have read for long; and that because it is so good, because it so nearly reaches its mark, and yet so decisively misses it. Here is an abundance of good things: a thoughtful observer of human life, a practised critic, has poured forth the contents of a well-stored mind—the mind of an omnivorous and retentive reader—in these pages; and yet without attaining more than a partial success. The failure, we may say at once, lies in the fact that we get no clear, definite picture of St. Paul. A novelist, we might have supposed, of Mr. Baring-Gould's great original powers and practical experience might possibly fail in points where the specialist would succeed, but in character-drawing he would surely excel, being on his own ground. Yet it is just here that the book falls short. In many respects it is admirable; it is full of the most varied and useful information; its side-lights upon the history, its suggestive paraphrases of difficult Pauline passages, its illustrations from all quarters—these are invaluable helps to the realization of the personality of Paul of Tarsus. But Mr. Baring-Gould has spent all his strength upon the environments of his central figure, and none appears to be left for the delineation of the figure itself. It is obscured and confused by the very richness and variety of the surroundings. The effect is something like that of a certain rendering of "Parsifal" once witnessed by the present writer at Bayreuth. The chorus, the scenery, the stage management were all but perfect; the principals could neither act nor sing. The truth is that Mr. Baring-Gould's literary work suffers from the defects of his qualities. He has an extraordinary power of assimilation; he takes matter in as rapidly as he pours it out; and he is probably the most prolific, and the quickest, of modern writers. The only wonder is that, dealing with almost every variety of subject, and working at such a pace, this author contrives to give us so much good stuff as he does. But it is impossible to avoid a feeling of irritation on laying down a book like this, which, with only a little more care and a little more time spent upon it, might so easily have taken rank with the very best books on the subject.

The opening chapters are among the best. A very interesting description of the methods of Rabbinic teaching leads up to a discussion of the effect of such an education upon the minds of the Twelve and upon that of St. Paul. The arguments of the latter's Epistles cannot be understood without reference to Rabbinic exegesis and interpretation; for from this the Apostle never altogether emancipated himself. The chapter on Stephen the deacon, again, is full of suggestion. Mr. Baring-Gould thinks that the famous "apology" of the first martyr was needlessly offensive and even insolent to his Jewish hearers, for all the intellectual and rhetorical ability which it displays. "Stephen was a man without self-control"; and his method on this occasion is contrasted with the conciliatory manner invariably adopted even by the impetuous Peter. In fact, Mr.

Baring-Gould inclines to think that the conservative policy of the Twelve, who did not desire to break with Judaism until it became absolutely inevitable, was on the whole wiser and more far-seeing than the hastier methods of the Hellenist Christians, even of Paul himself. He is entirely right, to our thinking, in his protest against the tendency of such writers as "that mouther of common opinion, Dean Farrar," to lecture the Twelve for their narrowness. One of the most thought-provoking passages in the book, perhaps, is that which deals with the phenomena of trance and rapture, illustrated from St. Teresa, Tennyson, and from the writer's own experience. He evidently places St. Paul's frequent "revelations" in the same category, and truly remarks that there is no class of man so difficult to be understood by ordinary people as the mystic. It is this mystical element in St. Paul which baffles the common student; "we have to allow for a factor in his composition that escapes investigation."

Mr. Baring-Gould does not take a high view of Paul's argumentative and reasoning powers. What impressed men was, as in the case of Francis, and in that of Wesley, the personality of the Apostle rather than the actual substance of his letters or speeches. The argument of the Romans and Galatians is incomprehensible without some knowledge of the Talmud and the system of dialectics employed by the Rabbis. Again: "Paul is thoroughly Oriental in his indifference to the welfare and sufferings of the brute creation" (1 Cor. ix. 9, 10). As a controversialist, therefore, he must be considered along with Hillel and Gamaliel, not with Plato and Aristotle.

The place of Paul in Christian history has been very variously determined. Some, like Comte, have regarded him as the true founder of Christianity. Others, again, have presented him as the corrupter and formalizer of the simple religion of Jesus. Neither view can be entirely accepted; but Mr. Baring-Gould has brought out with great point and wealth of illustration the elements of truth in both positions.

TRANSFORMATIONS OF THE EARTH'S CRUST.

"Treatise on Rocks, Rock Weathering and Soils." By George P. Merrill, Curator of Geology in the United States National Museum. New York: the Macmillan Company; London: Macmillan & Co. 1897.

IN the early days of geology, the wrinkled surface of the earth, with its bristling ranges and hollow valleys, its precipices and cañons, its tumbles of fantastic boulders and sculptured glens, was thought a plain evidence of the former play of Titanic forces. Since Lyell first showed that slow changes such as we now see operating on the "eternal hills" were sufficient in course of time to have caused at least most of the apparently catastrophic disturbances, a vast amount of exact knowledge has been gained of the operation of these secular, gentle agencies. Much of it has come from America, the broad surface of which shows, in singularly striking contrast, apparent results of catastrophe and abundant evidence that catastrophe has not been the chief agent. Mr. George P. Merrill, a physical geologist, well known on both sides of the Atlantic, has produced a volume of great utility to the geologist and of singular interest to the public. In his introductory chapter he sets out in the clearest way the scope of his treatise. The continual changes on the surface of the earth due to denudation, upheaval, or depression and volcanic agencies bring the various elements in their existing combinations as materials of the earth's crust out of harmony with their environment. "The summer's heat and winter's cold, the chemical action of atmospheres and acidulated rains combine their forces; a breaking up ensues, to be followed by new combinations and perhaps reconsolidations more in keeping with the then existing circumstances. An intermediate product in all this endless cycle of change, of disintegration and recombination is a comparatively thin superficial mantle of loose débris, which, mixed with more or less inorganic matter, nearly everywhere covers the

land, and by its combined chemical and mechanical properties furnishes food and foothold for myriads of plants, and hence, indirectly, sustenance for man and beast as well." It is the nature of these changes and the nature of the soils that they produce which form his subject.

The first part of the volume consists of an elaborate account of the chemical and physical structure of minerals and rocks. In this there is nothing particularly novel, but it is clearly put and obviously of great importance to the student. Mr. Merrill takes a sound view of nomenclature. There is an almost endless diversity of minerals, and to very many of these ardent mineralogists have given special names, generally place-names or personal names. Many of these minerals are not specific forms in the biological sense of the term, but are connected by complete series of grading transitional forms. Mr. Merrill gives the well-known names, but is careful to point out that most of them represent merely convenient halting-places in continuous series. He pays particular attention to the microscopic structure of rocks and minerals and gives abundant figures of prepared sections. The ordinary reader may be surprised to find that it is a simple matter, within the power of any handy amateur, to prepare sections of rocks less than an eight-hundredth of an inch in thickness. Such sections are quite transparent, and form remarkably beautiful and interesting microscopic objects. We know few things more striking than the appearance under the microscope of a transparent film of quartz rock, with its imprisoned bubbles of liquid carbonic acid, dancing in their chambers with each slightest vibration of the ground, like the beads in a spirit-level.

In the second portion of his volume Mr. Merrill, without ceasing to interest the geologist, becomes more attractive to the general reader. He describes the modes of operation and the effects of all the corroding agencies. To English readers, a special charm in this comes from the novelty of the instances, these being chosen almost entirely from American sources. In discussing the disintegrating effect of changes of temperature, Mr. Merrill points out that a change from 150° Fahr., while the sun is beating on rocks, to 0° Fahr. at night is quite common, even in summer. He has calculated that an increase of 150° would produce a lateral expansion of one inch in a sheet of granite 100 feet in diameter. The disintegration caused by such changes must be enormous, and of course heat is a less destructive agency by itself than by the changes it causes in contained water. Another striking instance of a continual agency is this. In the National Museum at Philadelphia is a sheet of plate-glass, removed from a lighthouse. During a severe storm of less than two days' duration, the impact of sand-grains upon this had so corroded the surface as to render it semi-opaque. Mr. Merrill calls special attention to the selective action of corroding agencies upon the heterogeneous materials of rocks. The action is naturally most severe along the weakest lines, and physical and chemical structure alike determine what is removed and what is left behind. The jewelled sands of many districts, as for instance the gem sand of Ceylon, is the result of decomposition of an igneous rock. The weathering affected least of all the harder precious stones embedded in the mass, and the action of rain, washing away the decomposed material, left behind a fine gravel containing the scarcely altered gems.

One of the more interesting general questions to which Mr. Merrill continually recurs is the nature of the chemical change gradually taking place on the surface of the earth. In all the processes of change the most continual occurrence is a combination of rock material with oxygen from the air and with water. By oxidation and hydration the earth is slowly increasing in bulk. Some observers, in the particular case of Brazilian mountains, the rocks of which are peculiarly liable to hydration, have declared that an actual increase in height is taking place. In most cases, of course, the distributing agencies, such as wind, gravity, and water, scatter over lower regions all the detritus, and so smooth off the contours of the land surfaces. But this process is none the less associated with a continual absorption and fixation of atmospheric oxygen, while

the deoxidizing of minerals and escape of the oxygen are so extremely rare as practically to be negligible. Mr. Merrill might have referred in this connexion to the remarkable conclusions of Bunge, a well-known German chemist. In a lecture on the circulation of the elements that writer pointed out how, as a secular change, oxygen and other elements, the free occurrence of which is necessary to animal life, are gradually being absorbed into the crust of the earth in a form useless to life. At the present time combined oxygen forms nearly fifty per cent. by weight of the crust of the earth. But each upheaval, each disturbance of superficial layers, exposes fresh surfaces of matter hungry for combination with the oxygen of the air.

As a curious little slip in the index we notice that the Darwin mentioned there is E. Darwin, presumably Erasmus. As a matter of fact all the references obviously relate to Charles Darwin.

A WOMAN IN SEARCH OF A LIFE.

"A Russian Wild Flower; or, the Story of a Woman in Search of a Life." By E. A. Brayley Hodgetts. London: John McQueen. 1897.

"A RUSSIAN Wild Flower" is not a wholly uninteresting book. It is thin and twaddly, with pages of unnecessary and feeble dissertations on Hegelism and Agnosticism, on Nihilism and Democratic Government. It is poor in character-drawing and bald in descriptive writing. There is no plot worth speaking of, and the literary style is in the same position as the plot. But it is lifted out of the ruck of badly constructed novels by its local colour. It is not only Russian in its names. The Obolinskis and the Olgas, the Vassilieffs and the Dobroffs, have more of the Muscovite in them than their last syllables. The Moscow of the book is not London or Paris; the life, the habits, the manners, of its people speak of a different, if not an inferior, civilization; and it is obvious on every page that the author is writing of scenes and people familiar to him. It is unfortunate that he has seen them with dull and unilluminative eyes; he cannot paint a picture, and his photographs have none of the realistic movements of the Cinematograph; but they are photographs, however faint and badly developed, and they have the interest of their veracity.

Prince Obolinski resides on his country estate with his wife and son and daughter. Olga is seventeen, beautiful and restless, yearning for distraction, and bored, as it is the nature of a young girl to be bored, by the contemplation of her unappreciated charms in her own looking-glass. The Prince obtains a tutor for his son, and in the usual way with tutors in novels, Proudson falls in love with his pupil's sister. She repels his advances with sufficient encouragement, and they are discovered together in amatory attitudes. The tutor is dismissed, and Olga, whose father recognizes her mental condition, is sent to Moscow for a little legitimate entertainment. This is how he describes the matter:—

"Well, she is a very pretty girl . . . If she insists on falling in love, why, there is no knowing whom she will not run away with. Nobody is safe, not even old Ivan (the butler), when a girl like Olga is desperate; and there is positively nothing that a woman's vanity is not capable of! . . . She is thirsting for admiration, and when a woman thirsts for admiration, she must have it at all costs."

So Olga goes to stay with the Ouspenskis, and promptly distinguishes herself by a couple of love affairs. One is with her hostess's son, and the second with his brother officer. Young Nicholas courts his mother's guest like a gentleman, but Lissenko is an Adelphi villain, who elopes with her from a ball and conducts her to a house of questionable reputation. However, as soon as he "unmasks his fell design," Olga defends herself with spirit, escapes from his power, and returns to the ball before she has been missed. But Lissenko speaks lightly of her, and Nicholas calls him out. They fight a duel, and Nicholas is killed. This necessitates a change of abode for Miss Olga, as she thinks it would be uncomfortable for her to remain a guest of the mother whose favourite son

she has been the means of destroying! The author permits us no emotion over the incident, though we are called upon to sympathize very much with the heroine over the dietary hardships at the house of her next hostess, the sanctimonious Madame Dobroff. Religion bores Olga even more than her country life had done, and as she providentially meets Proudson again just at this juncture of her affairs, she lets him convert her to a half-hearted Nihilism, under the influence of which she runs away with him, platonically, accompanied by her maid, and becomes a school teacher at the Moscow Maidenhead, a riverside town named Sokolniki. Here everything grows complicated, disjointed, and abstruse. Several new figures come into sight; one is a millionaire and another a police spy. There is also a poet, an *isvostchik*, or cabdriver, and a "plutocratic dandy." The police spy is murdered by order of the "executive committee," and Proudson, who seems to have been the selected instrument, is in his turn "removed" mysteriously by his brothers. This, though it has nothing to do with the tale, leaves Olga free to espouse the millionaire, tempted by visions of "schools and savings banks" for his factory hands.

It is not being hypercritical to say that this is a very indifferent story, a meek melodrama, without sentiment or romance, the collisions cardboard, and the explosions raising only dust. But the interior of the Russian households, which we see but vaguely, are full of interest. Proudson's proselytizing mission to the peasants' hut introduces us not only to "the sacred *ikon*, without which no Russian dwelling is considered safe from the importunate visits of the evil one," but also to the "enormous brick stove, which rises from the floor to the roof, and which has ledges and shelves all round it, forming lofts upon which the family sleep; sometimes they get into the stove itself and sleep there." The University ball, again, is highly characteristic. It is a ball given at the Nobles' Club by the University for the benefit of the poorer members. It is the fashion for everybody to attend this ball. "Every variety of uniform was represented and almost every rank . . . the civilians were mostly in evening dress, but many were in morning dress. The ladies of the Russian merchant class succeeded in blending red, yellow, blue, green and purple in one costume. . . . Many of them had pawned what valuables they possessed to put in an appearance and purchase such refreshment as they loved." Everybody drinks vodka, "until at last there remained to testify that a ball was going on but a mass of reeling, tumbling, prostrate individuals of both sexes scattered over the floors of the saloons." A strange scene; one has but to imagine it in the hands of a Turgenieff or a Dostovetski to realize the feebleness of its present chronicler.

NAVAL AND MILITARY TROPHIES.

"Naval and Military Trophies and Personal Relics of British Heroes." A Series of Water-colour Drawings by William Gibb. London: John C. Nimmo. 1897.

TROPHIES and personal relics can never surely have been so honoured as they are here. The piety of descendants has frequently preserved with tender and scrupulous care minutiae which to the public sometimes seem trivial or even ridiculous. The hair of the Prophet's beard, which is so ubiquitous, represents a religious tradition and may be respected; even if the much-travelled sightseer who has seen as many as he has pieces of the true cross can hardly revere it with due awe. Even certain gruesome remains of the martyr Charles which we remember in the Stewart Exhibition may escape the sarcasm of the scoffer who is not a nineteenth-century Jacobite, and the maternal affection which has cherished the ashes of the last cigarette smoked by the Prince Imperial will provoke sympathy rather than derision. But the industry and pains displayed in the drawings before us are prompted neither by family pride nor affection, nor even, we may presume, by patriotism pure and simple. They are directed rather towards the edification and amusement of the

British public, and the very most that it was possible to make of the various objects has been set before it. We can see the walking-stick of Drake reproduced in facsimile so far as the power of brush and pencil will do it. Space will not admit of more than the handle, it is true, being displayed; but we have every grain and line of the woodwork, and can well imagine the remaining two or three feet of the great sailor's stick. But, on the other hand, we are given the whole of Captain Cook's punch-bowl, and the worshipper at his shrine may save himself the trouble of a visit to the United Service Institution, for the drawing is a masterpiece of still life, and tells us all that we can possibly desire to know. Ladies will be fascinated by the jewelled bird which once was perched on the throne of Tippoo Sultan. Rubies, emeralds and diamonds jostle one another in its golden plumage, the light of brightest gems flashes from its eyes, and it wears an emerald on its breast that the most bejewelled of prima donnas may fairly envy. After it the cap of the Emperor of China seems quite dowdy, and the crowns of the Kings of Abyssinia and Kandy are comparatively tame. Something more than jewelry gives an interest to the magnificent "Georges" worn successively by the great Dukes of Marlborough and Wellington. The latter, indeed, seems to have received his outright from the hands of George IV., and the present holder of the title is the fortunate owner of probably the most interesting of decorations. Lord Raglan's telescope, with a light gunstock fitted to it, reminds us that the old hero who laid down his life in the Crimea had already lost his arm at Waterloo. Tippoo Sultan was apparently good enough to supply us with more trophies than any one else, and his generosity is becomingly recognized in three large plates, which, in addition to the bird already described, show us accurate representations of his gunstock, and, on a smaller scale, of his helmet and standard. The bravery and worth of Admiral Duncan, whom Nelson specially admired, are recognized in the plate which shows his sword, and that of De Winter too. We are also given his watch, and the letterpress, which throughout plays cicerone, impresses upon us the fact that no one has ever wound it since the gallant admiral last did so. To our mind the best drawing of all, because it deals with a subject which lends itself to pictorial treatment, is that of the figure-head of the "Vryheid," the flagship of De Winter, which was captured by Duncan at Camperdown. The Dutch man-of-war fought with a determination and courage which not even a ship of Nelson's could have surpassed, and only struck her colours to superior odds in the end, when her masts had fallen over her side and disabled her starboard guns. James tells us that the captured ships "were like sieves, and only worth bringing into port to be exhibited as trophies." So Duncan sawed the figure-head off the flagship and put it up in his garden at Camperdown, near Dundee, where it still remains, and we trust will long continue to do so. Such relics go far to foster that patriotism which plays the same part in our national life as does *esprit de corps* in our ships and batteries and battalions. We cannot dispense with self-respect and proper pride as a nation any more than we can as individuals, if we are to be worthy of the great traditions our predecessors have handed down to us. Whether the pages before us will greatly further the desire to spread and foster sentiments and feelings such as we warmly sympathize with, we, however, somewhat doubt. The work is so complete and thorough that it defeats its own object; for these plates are beyond the reach of any but the rich, and it is not so much the wealthy and well educated as the masses whom we want to interest.

LITERARY NOTES.

IT was a lucky idea of Messrs. Bell to publish the annals of the great Art auctioneers in their "Memorials of Christie's." With its stories of famous sales and record prices, it should become an invaluable reference book. The author, Mr. W. Roberts, has already identified himself with the subject in his previous works, "The Bookhunter in London" and "Printers' Mark."

The first volume of "The Prose Works of Jonathan Swift," in Messrs. Bell's new edition, will be out next week. The biographical introduction will be written by Mr. Lecky. Among their other publications, Messrs. Bell are anticipating their complete translation of Vasari's *Lives* by a selection of seventy of the biographies, "edited and annotated in the light of modern discoveries by E. H. and E. W. Blashfield and A. A. Hopkins."

Messrs. Sampson Low are following up their recent successes in Naval History by yet another volume, which will deal with naval administration between the years 1827 and 1892. The work was completed by the late Sir John Henry Briggs just before his death last February. It will contain the author's experiences, covering sixty years, from the administration of the Duke of Clarence (William IV.) as Lord High Admiral to that of Lord George Hamilton. Lady Briggs is seeing the book through the press.

The stirring vicissitudes in the history of Gibraltar will form the theme of Messrs. Downey's new volume, "Tales of the Rock." It will be written by Miss Mary Anderson, who must not be confused with her namesake of theatrical fame.

Two books of travel are forthcoming from Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. In the first, Lady Howard of Glossop will give her experiences during a recent tour in the United States, Mexico and Canada: the second will be entitled "Journeys among the gentle Japs in the Summer of 1895," by the Rev. J. Ll. Thomas.

Among the coming works on Natural History will be Sir Herbert Maxwell's "Memories of the Month," which Mr. Edward Arnold expects to have ready on 6 May. Under the heading of each month are treated the phases of country life peculiar to the season. Mr. J. H. Crawford is supplementing his volume on "The Wild Life of Scotland" by another on "The Wild Flowers of Scotland." It also will have the advantage of Mr. John Williamson's illustrations, and will be produced by the same publisher, Mr. John Macqueen.

A book of antiquarian interest will be the Rev. P. N. Ditchfield's "Story of our English Towns," which Mr. George Redway will publish next week. It will be written not so much for the student as for those to whom the bulkier works on historical research are inaccessible.

A new Life of Wagner will shortly be issued by Messrs. Dent. It will be written by Mr. Houston Stuart Chamberlain, and will deal with the private as well as the public life of the composer. It will also be embellished with photogravures and reproductions of portions of the scores from each of the operas.

Mr. George Allen contemplates a cheap edition of "Modern Painters," uniform with the complete volume of "The Seven Lamps of Architecture." It will contain all the plates and woodcuts of the more elaborate editions. The other forthcoming works from this house include "The Aphorisms of Walter Savage Landor," in the *Pensées* Series; "The Free Library, its History and Present Condition," by Dr. Ogle, being the first of the Library Series which Dr. Garnett is editing; and "Events of the Reign," a tabulated reference, under headings, to the leading incidents of the last sixty years.

Darkest Africa is to be yet further denuded of her tattered robe of mystery by the researches of Dr. Aurel Schulz. "The New Africa, a Journey up the Chobé and down the Okovango Rivers," will throw light on a hitherto unexplored district of South Africa. The importance of the book lies largely in the description of a navigable water connexion between the rivers, which is likely to play a prominent part in the future development of that region. Mr. Heinemann will produce the volume in a few days.

Another work which Mr. Heinemann has in the press is from the pen of the French astronomer, M. Camille

Flammarion. The author has essayed the difficult task of giving actuality to a speculative theory of life in another planet. The romance, for such it must be styled, has at least been appreciated across the Channel, fifty thousand copies of the original having been bought up.

The second week of this month will see the issue, by Messrs. Chatto & Windus, of Sir Walter Besant's new novel, "A Fountain Sealed." The story has been practically rewritten since it appeared in serial form in the "Illustrated London News." The same firm will also have ready for the opening day the twenty-third issue of "Academy Notes," in which will appear some copyright pictures not to be found in any other medium.

Three hundred copies on ordinary paper and fifty on hand-made will comprise the edition of Dr. Paul Kristeller's "Florentine Illustrated Books," which Messrs. Kegan Paul have ready. It will be of interest to students of the Florentine Chapbooks of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, as it will contain a bibliography compiled from all the principal European libraries, and many woodcuts photographed by the author from unique books.

Messrs. Longmans are contemplating an "Oxford Library of Practical Theology" to meet the needs of the large body of laity who prefer their dogma served up with brevity and lucidity. The series will be edited by Canon W. C. E. Newbolt and the Rev. F. E. Brightman, of Pusey House, Oxford.

A costly production is "The Art of Painting in the Queen's Reign," by A. G. Temple, F.S.A., which Messrs. Chapman & Hall have ready. It deals with the most celebrated artists and their works during the past sixty years, and is illustrated with nearly a hundred collotypes. The same publishers also announce "A Tale of Two Tunnels," by W. Clark Russell; "A Day's Tragedy," a volume in verse by the champion of Greece, Mr. Allen Upward; and "Captain Kid's Millions," by Alan Oscar. The first half of the last novel recently appeared in "Chapman's Magazine."

Professional photographers are taking advantage of Act 25 & 26 Vict. c. 68 to worry publishers of newspapers and of books with threats for infringement of their copyrights. As the law now stands any photograph that is paid for becomes the copyright of the purchaser; but, if a photographer takes the portrait of a public person and presents him with a few copies as a consideration, the copyright is then supposed to remain with the photographer. The question up to the present has not been of sufficient importance to induce publishers to defend such actions. A case was decided recently in which it was held by Mr. Justice Henn Collins that the photographer had no copyright whatever in the portrait of a professional player for which he had given no consideration. This decision, however, will probably be appealed against. It is desirable in the interest of publishers of books and periodicals that the whole matter should be thrashed out without delay.

Messrs. Cassell & Company will publish on Monday the first part of "Royal Academy Pictures, for 1897," which will as usual contain some important Academy pictures that will appear in no other publication.

Mr. Henry James is furnishing a short introduction to the posthumous work of the late Hubert Crackanthorpe, which will shortly issue from the house of Mr. William Heinemann.

A valuable collection of books and manuscripts was disposed of by Messrs. Puttick & Simpson lately. Among the works which fetched high prices were: "Psalterium Davidis," MS. in vellum of the Fifteenth Century, £119; "Calendars of State Papers," 175 volumes, £50; Spenser's "Faerie Queene" and "Colin Clout," the latter first edition, £27 10s.; "Officium B.V.M.," on vellum, 1499, £53; and "Queen Victoria," by R. R. Holmes (voucher copy), £19 10s. The sale realized £1,160.

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